#30 Dice 8/20/04

# PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Masashi OGAWA et al.

Continuation of Appln. No.: 09/125,944

Group Art Unit in Parent: 1631

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner in Parent: M. MORAN

Filed: July 31, 2001

For: METHOD OF MEASUREMENT OF PROTEASE AND THIN MEMBRANES USED

FOR SAID METHOD

#### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

(C)

-- This is a continuation of Application No. 09/125,944, filed February 10, 1999, the

disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.--

#### IN THE CLAIMS:

## Please enter the following amended claims:

1. (amended) A method for measuring protease which comprises the steps of:

(1) contacting a sample containing protease with a thin membrane which comprises a protease substrate together with a hardening agent formed on a surface of a support; and

date: 12/13/2002 EEKURRY!

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